

Serial No. 10/813,633
Docket No. PTGF-03090
Reference No. HIR.099

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) A rearview mirror apparatus for looking the backward circumstances of a vehicle, comprising:

a housing that includes a mirror disposed on its back side;

a light-emitting diode (LED) an LED that includes a light emitting element and that plane-radiates light in a direction nearly vertical to the optical axis of the light emitting element; and

a light guiding member that is attached to the housing such that it the light guiding member is exposed in an opening formed at part of the outer surface of the housing, and that houses at least the one LED at a predetermined position;

wherein the light guiding light guiding member allows part of light plane-radiated from the LED to be transmitted through the light guiding member and allows other part of light radiated from the LED to be reflected on its a light guiding member inner surface to be radiated in a desired direction.

6. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 5, wherein:

the light guiding member is composed of a front face formed along the outer shape of the housing and a back face opposite to the front face, the back face being provided with a step portion to diffuse light radiated from the LED.

7. (Currently amended) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 6, wherein:

the step portion functions as a reflection surface that reflects light radiated from the LED or light reflected on at least part of the front face and back face of the light guiding member in a desired direction to allow the light to be externally radiated from the front face of the light guiding member.

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8. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 6, wherein:
the LED is disposed between the front face and back face of the light guiding member and near the outer edge of the housing.
9. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 6, wherein:
the light guiding member has a V-shaped notch on the back face, the notch serving to diffuse light radiated from the LED.
10. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 5, wherein:
the light guiding member has one end that is extended near the mirror on the back side of the housing.
11. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 5, wherein:
the housing is attached to a door or an engine hood of the vehicle, or to a motorcycle as the vehicle.
12. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 5, wherein:
the LED emits amber or white light.
13. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 5, wherein:
the LED is turned on in conjunction with a blinker lamp and/or parking lamp.
14. (Currently amended) A rearview mirror apparatus for ~~looking the backward circumstances of~~ a vehicle, comprising:
a housing that includes a mirror disposed on its back side;
a light-emitting diode (LED) ~~an LED~~ that includes a light emitting element and that radiates light in ~~an the~~ optical axis direction of the light emitting element and in a direction nearly vertical to the optical axis direction; and
a reflector that is disposed along the shape of the housing at part of the outer surface of

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the housing and that has at least one reflection surface which allows light plane-radiated from the LED disposed in the ~~reflection surface~~ reflector to be reflected in the front or side direction of the vehicle.

15. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 14, wherein:
the reflector has two reflection surfaces for forward lighting and for sideward lighting.

16. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 14, wherein:
the reflector has a cover on its front face.

17. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 16, wherein:
the cover has a diffusion surface to diffuse incident light on its inner surface.

18. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 16, wherein:
the cover is transparent or semi-transparent and is colored in amber or colorless.

19. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 14, wherein:
the housing is attached to a door or an engine hood of the vehicle, or to a motorcycle as the vehicle.

20. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 14, wherein:
the LED emits amber or white light.

21. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 14, wherein:
the LED is turned on in conjunction with a blinker lamp and/or parking lamp.

22. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 14, wherein:
the LED is disposed inside the housing such that light radiated from the light emitting element is directly radiated to the back of the vehicle.

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23. (Original) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 14, wherein:
the reflector has a partially reduced thickness such that light radiated from the light emitting element is directly radiated to the back of the vehicle.
24. (New) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 5, wherein:
the LED is fitted into the light guiding member.
25. (New) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 5, wherein:
the light guiding member has a thickness; and
an emission point of the at least one LED is located at a middle of the thickness of the light guiding member.
26. (New) A rearview mirror apparatus for a vehicle, comprising:
a housing that includes a mirror disposed on its back side;
at least one light-emitting diode (LED) that includes a light emitting element and plane-radiates light in a direction nearly vertical to the optical axis of the light emitting element; and
a light guiding member attached to the housing such that it is exposed in an opening formed at part of the outer surface of the housing, the at least one LED being located within the light guiding member at a predetermined position,
wherein the light guiding member allows light plane-radiated from the LED to be transmitted through the light guiding member and to be reflected on an inner surface of the light guiding member to be radiated in a desired direction.
27. (New) The rearview mirror apparatus according to claim 26, wherein:
the at least one LED is fitted into the light guiding member,
the light guiding member has a thickness, and
an emission point of the at least one LED is located at a middle of the thickness of the light guiding member.